

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please make the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for robust transmission delimiting, comprising:  
a communication message including a preamble, the preamble operating to frame the message and to delimit the message from silence, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information; and  
an encoder configured to encode the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being supported over a communication channel.
2. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim [[1]] 4, further comprising a gain boost element configured to increase the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The system as defined in claim 1, A system for robust transmission delimiting, comprising:~~  
a communication message including a preamble, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information; and  
an encoder configured to encode the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being supported over a communication channel,

wherein the preamble includes information that defines a rate at which data following the preamble has been encoded for transmission.

5. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim [[1]] 4, wherein the preamble includes information defining a maximum rate at which a first transceiver that is sending the preamble is able to receive transmissions from a second transceiver that is receiving the preamble.

6. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim [[1]] 4, wherein the preamble indicates whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

7. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim [[1]] 4, wherein the preamble indicates whether administrative information follows the preamble.

8. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 6, further comprising:  
a first scrambler configured to scramble the preamble; and  
a second scrambler configured to scramble the data[[.]]  
wherein a state of the scrambler used to scramble the bits that comprise the preamble is the state that existed when scrambling of a previous preamble was completed.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The system as defined in claim 6, wherein the data portion of the communication message comprises fixed size units, the fixed size units comprising a plurality of bits and wherein the bits are encoded into symbol indices such that, for each of the fixed size units, one symbol index is encoded differently from the other symbols.

11. (Original) The system as defined in claim 10, wherein the differently encoded symbol index further comprises an extra bit that indicates whether the fixed size unit from which the other bits of the differently encoded symbol indices are obtained is the last one transmitted in a message.

12. (Original) The system as defined in claim 10, wherein the differently encoded symbol index is encoded at a data rate lower than that of the other symbols carrying message data.

13. (Previously Presented) A system for delimiting the end of a transmission, comprising:

a communication message segmented into a plurality of fixed size units, each fixed size unit including a plurality of bits; and

an encoder configured to encode the plurality of bits into a plurality of symbol indices at a first data rate, the encoder also configured to encode at a second rate when producing the first symbol index in the plurality of symbol indices that contains only bits from each fixed size unit, where the second rate is lower than the first rate.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for robust transmission delimiting, the method comprising the steps of:

applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble operating to frame the message and to delimit the message from silence, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information; and

encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 14 17, further comprising the step of increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as defined in claim 14, further comprising the step of A method for robust transmission delimiting, the method comprising the steps of:~~

applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information;  
encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel; and

including information in the preamble defining a rate at which data following the preamble has been encoded for transmission.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 14 17, further comprising the step of including information in the preamble defining a maximum rate at which a transceiver that is sending the preamble is able to receive transmissions from a transceiver that is receiving the preamble.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 14 17, further comprising the step of using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 14 17, further comprising the step of using the preamble to indicate whether administrative information follows the preamble.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

scrambling the preamble using a first scrambler; and  
scrambling the data using a second scrambler[[.]] ; and  
scrambling the bits in the preamble using the state of the scrambler that existed when  
scrambling of the previous preamble was complete.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Original) The method as defined in claim 19, wherein the data portion of the communication message comprises fixed size units, the fixed size units comprising a plurality of bits, and wherein the bits that comprise each of the fixed size units are encoded into symbol indices such that for each of the fixed size units, one symbol index is encoded differently from the other symbols.

24. (Original) The method as defined in claim 23, further comprising the step of including in said differently encoded symbol index an extra bit that indicates whether the fixed

size unit from which the other bits of said differently encoded symbol indices are obtained is the last one transmitted in a message.

25. (Original) The method as defined in claim 23, further comprising the step of encoding the differently encoded symbol index at a data rate lower than that of the other symbols carrying message data.

26. (Previously Presented) A method for delimiting the end of a transmission, the method comprising the steps of:

segmenting a communication message into a plurality of units, each unit including a plurality of bits and having a fixed size;

encoding a plurality of the bits in the plurality of units into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices being encoded at a first rate; and

encoding one symbol index of the plurality of symbol indices at a rate lower than the first rate, the one symbol index containing bits from only one of the plurality of units.

27. (Currently Amended) A system for robust transmission delimiting, comprising:  
means for applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble operating to

frame the message and to delimit the message from silence, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information; and

means for encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel.

28. (Original) The system as defined in claim 27, further comprising means for increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) ~~The system as defined in claim 27, further comprising A system for robust transmission delimiting, comprising:~~  
~~means for applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information;~~  
~~means for encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel; and~~  
means for including information in the preamble defining a rate at which data following the preamble has been encoded for transmission.

31. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim ~~27~~ 30, further comprising means for including information in the preamble defining a maximum rate at which a transceiver that is sending the preamble is able to receive transmissions from a transceiver that is receiving the preamble.

32. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim ~~27~~ 30, further comprising means for using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

33. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 27 30, further comprising means for using the preamble to indicate whether administrative information follows the preamble.

34. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 32, further comprising:  
means for scrambling the preamble using a first scrambler; and  
means for scrambling the data using a second scrambler[.] ; and  
means for scrambling the bits in the preamble using the state of the scrambler that existed  
when scrambling of the previous preamble was complete.

35. (Cancelled).

36. (Original) The system as defined in claim 32, wherein the data portion of the communication message comprises fixed size units, the fixed size units comprising a plurality of bits; and

means for encoding the bits that comprise each of the fixed size units into symbol indices such that for each of the fixed size units, one symbol index is encoded differently from the other symbols.

37. (Original) The system as defined in claim 36, further comprising means for including in said differently encoded symbol index an extra bit that indicates whether the fixed size unit from which the other bits of said differently encoded symbol indices are obtained is the last one transmitted in a message.

38. (Original) The system as defined in claim 36, further comprising means for encoding the differently encoded symbol index at a data rate lower than that of the other symbols carrying message data.

39. (Previously Presented) A system for delimiting the end of a transmission, comprising:

means for segmenting a communication message into a plurality of fixed size units, each unit including a plurality of bits;

means for encoding a plurality of the bits in the units into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices being encoded at a first rate; and

means for encoding at a second rate when producing the first symbol index in the plurality of symbol indices that contains only bits from each fixed size unit, where the second rate is lower than the first rate.

40. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having a program for robust transmission delimiting, the program comprising logic for performing the steps of:

applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble operating to frame the message and to delimit the message from silence, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information; and

encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel.

41. (Original) The program as defined in claim 40, further comprising logic for performing the step of increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

42. (Cancelled).

43. (Currently Amended) ~~The program as defined in claim 40, further comprising logic for performing the step A computer readable medium having a program for robust transmission delimiting, the program comprising logic for performing the steps of:~~

applying a preamble to a communication message, the preamble including a plurality of bits representing communication link control information;  
encoding the preamble bits into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices encoded at a lower bit per symbol rate relative to the maximum rate capable of being transmitted over a communication channel; and

including information in the preamble defining a rate at which data following the preamble has been encoded for transmission.

44. (Currently Amended) The program as defined in claim 40 43, further comprising logic for performing the step of including information in the preamble defining a maximum rate at which a transceiver that is sending the preamble is able to receive transmissions from a transceiver that is receiving the preamble.

45. (Currently Amended) The program as defined in claim 40 43, further comprising logic for performing the step of using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

46. (Currently Amended) The program as defined in claim 40 43, further comprising logic for performing the step of using the preamble to indicate whether administrative information follows the preamble.

47. (Currently Amended) The program as defined in claim 45, further comprising logic for performing the steps of:

scrambling the preamble using a first scrambler; and

scrambling the data using a second scrambler[[.]] ; and

scrambling the bits in the preamble using the state of the scrambler that existed when scrambling of the previous preamble was complete.

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Original) The program as defined in claim 45, wherein the data portion of the communication message comprises fixed size units, the fixed size units comprising a plurality of bits; and

wherein the bits that comprise each of the fixed size units are encoded into symbol indices such that for each of the fixed size units, one symbol index is encoded differently from the other symbols.

50. (Original) The program as defined in claim 49, further comprising logic for performing the step of including in said differently encoded symbol index an extra bit that indicates whether the fixed size unit from which the other bits of said differently encoded symbol indices are obtained is the last one transmitted in a message.

51. (Original) The program as defined in claim 49, further comprising logic for performing the step of encoding the differently encoded symbol index at a data rate lower than that of the other symbols carrying message data.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having a program for delimiting the end of a transmission, the program comprising logic to perform the steps of: segmenting a communication message into a plurality of fixed size units, each unit including a plurality of bits; encoding a plurality of the bits in the fixed sized units into a plurality of symbol indices, the symbol indices being encoded at a first rate; and encoding at a second rate when producing the first symbol index in the plurality of symbol indices that contains only bits from each fixed size unit, where the second rate is lower than the first rate.

53. (Previously Presented) A method for delimiting the end of a transmission, the method comprising the steps of: segmenting a communication message into a plurality of fixed size units, each unit including a plurality of bits; encoding the first N bits in a unit into a first symbol index, the first symbol index being encoded at a first rate, N being less than the fixed size; and encoding the remaining bits in the plurality of units into a plurality of symbol indices at a rate greater than the first rate.

54. (New) The system as defined in claim 13, further comprising a gain boost element configured to increase the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

55. (New) The system as defined in claim 13, wherein the preamble indicates whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

56. (New) The method as defined in claim 26, further comprising the step of increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

57. (New) The method as defined in claim 26, further comprising the step of using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

58. (New) The system as defined in claim 39, further comprising means for increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

59. (New) The system as defined in claim 39, further comprising means for using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

60. (New) The program as defined in claim 52, further comprising logic for performing the step of increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

61. (New) The program as defined in claim 52, further comprising logic for performing the step of using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.

62. (New) The method as defined in claim 53, further comprising the step of increasing the energy of the first symbol index to reliably indicate the beginning of the communication message.

63. (New) The method as defined in claim 53, further comprising the step of using the preamble to indicate whether a data portion follows the preamble and, if so, the format and type of data that follows the preamble.